

<p>7th Sunday of Easter</p> <p>First Reading Acts 1:15-17. 20-26 With discernment and prayer the apostles choose Matthias to replace Judas as a fellow apostle.</p> <p>Responsorial Psalm 102:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 The Lord has set his sway in heaven.</p> <p>Second Reading 1 John 4:11-16 The heart of the Christian faith is love: God's love for us and our love for one another</p>	<p>Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!</p> <p>Gospel John 17:11-19 Jesus prays for the Church, for each of us to be one with him, to be filled with his joy; and for us to be protected from evil.</p>
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Parish of Corpus Christi

Sacred Heart (Goldthorpe), Sacred Heart & St Helen (Hoyland) and St Michael & All Angels (Wombwell)



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Sunday 16th May 2021 Sunday Year B
7th Sunday of Easter Weekday Cycle II

"Since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another."

Service Times & Intentions

Saturday (St Michael`s)	15 May	5.30pm	Pat and Mike Pease Golden Wedding
Sunday (St Michael`s)	16 May	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	16 May	11.00am	Terence Dyson RIP
Tuesday	18 May	12.00pm	Peace in the Middle East
Wednesday (St Michael`s)	19 May	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Thursday	20 May	12.00pm	People of the Parish
Friday	21 May	12.00pm	Michael Smith RIP
Saturday	22 May	12.00pm	Holy Souls
Saturday (St Michael`s)	22 May	5.30pm	Lissy Shaji RIP
Sunday (St Michael`s)	23 May	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday (St Helen`s)	23 May	11.00am	Colin Barker RIP

One of the most famous advertising campaigns on British TV, running for many years from the 1960s, was the one for a certain brand of chocolates. In a series of different scenarios, the James Bond-like star skied across mountains, fought with crocodiles, scaled sheer cliffs, leapt over rooftops and into an open window carrying a box of chocolates for the woman he loved – "All because the lady loves Milk Tray." So memorable was it that in 2016 it returned to the screens and a fireman called Patrick McBride was chosen from over twenty thousand applicants for the starring role. He tackled the Mongolian Steppes to deliver the chocolates.

We cannot overestimate the immense power of love. The power of love challenged the brutal might of the Roman Empire, built as it was on conquest and slavery. Pressure from Christians, motivated by love, contributed to the ending of contests to the death between gladiators in the Colosseum, and eventually the cruelty of wild animal fights in the arena as well. Slavery persisted longer, so woven was it into the imperial economy; and tragically, throughout history since then, it has proved difficult to free the world of it.

In more recent years, love would eventually prove stronger than the fear through which the totalitarian dictators of the twentieth century held power. Neighbours reported neighbours; family members were encouraged to betray their parents or siblings for murmuring any criticism of the State, putting everyone in fear of each other and of the secret police. People disappeared never to be seen again. In Poland, a young priest and philosopher called Karol Wojtyla taught a whole generation of students about the value of human persons and the love which binds us together. When he was credited, as Pope St John Paul II, with the undermining of communism, he said the tree was rotten anyway and he just gave it a good kick.

Love is the heart and essence of Christianity. It is the glorious gift which God the creator gave to the human race. Love has its origin in God's love for us. Human love depends on God's love. That is one reason why, for example, after the Soviet authorities persecuted and closed churches over several decades, such terrible things happened to disabled people and to children in orphanages, that in the early 1990s President Gorbachev invited the Salvation Army and Mother Teresa's order,

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the Missionaries of Charity, to work in the country because it had forgotten how to take care of poor and needy people. Churches and monasteries were reopened when the State, as well as the people, realised how much they were needed.

God became human in order to bring God's love to us, thereby revealing how much God loves us. Very few would disagree with the famous words "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Religious people and those without faith can all recognise their truth. Many have forgotten that the one who first spoke them was Jesus, who in coming to live a human life, to guide and teach us, and to share our joys and sorrows, our happiness and agony, laid down his life on the cross, showing how much we are loved by God.

How tragic it is when people think they are of no value, no use or are unlovable – because it is not true. The one who gave his life for us created a loving community for us, the Church. Jesus calls out to everyone, especially those who are troubled and unloved, "Come to me." When we approach Jesus Christ, read his teachings in the Gospels, pray and talk to him as the real person he is, we understand what St John meant in today's second reading, "We ourselves have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves." As we sense this more, and meet others in our community who are full of love, perhaps in a small prayer group or friendship circle, it becomes a reality, not mere words, to hear St John say, "My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another." A community which looks out for people, helps them, and in which people "walk the second mile", putting themselves out for others, truly does reflect the teachings of Jesus and manifest his presence among them.

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Prayers for the Sick

We pray for our sick and/or housebound parishioners. We remember especially Janette Barber, Claire Selby, Amy Moore, Paddy McNicholas, Peter Hutchinson, Clare Dingwall, Anne Whittingham, Sue Bird, David Hardy, Tess Lynch, Carol Beard, Edna Yates, Justin Phillip Collins, Hannah Prentiss, Pat and Colin Hermitage, Thomas Collins, Norma Marshall, Lesley Easton, Val Armstrong, Minnie Helen Pozorski, Terry Mullins, Matthew Deakin, Margaret Booker, Anne Lacey, Kath Cragg, Michael Foy, Shirley Broadhead, Norah Preuss, Mavis Guilcher, Andrew Chandler.

Requiescat in Pace

We pray for the repose of the soul of Douglas Roy O'Donnell who died recently. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

World Communications Day

On World Communications Day, we take up the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. The second collection this weekend is in support of all those in the Church who communicate to others.

CAFOD

As coronavirus brings devastation across India, CAFOD is working with experienced local Church agency, Caritas India, to provide vital support to poor and marginalised communities. Donations to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India distribute PPE kits to frontline health workers, promote COVID & vaccine awareness campaigns, and set up safely run isolation & quarantine centres. You can donate online at: cafod.org.uk/give. Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic.

Red Mission Boxes

Please bring in your Red Mission Boxes at your earliest convenience. If you are a UK Taxpayer, please consider using Gift Aid. Thank you for your support and for your continued prayers for missionaries around the world.

Donations and Weekly Offerings

Please continue to donations via PayPal, online payments and Standing Order. This is our main source of income. Donations to the parish can be made online via PayPal at corpuschristi.hallam-diocese.com/parish-news/donate-if-you-can/

Another way is to donate is by Standing Order and the form is available on the website. Please note that the full name of the account is

`Diocese of Hallam, Corpus Christi Parish`

Apostles` Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;

He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

Prayer for Vocations

Loving and generous Father: it is you who call us by name and ask us to follow you. In particular, you call some to serve you as ministers in your church. Bless our Diocese of Hallam by raising up faith-filled and dedicated priests, deacons and religious. Bless our families and choose from our homes those who are needed for your mission.

Blessed John Anne	Pray for us
Blessed Robert Ludlam	Pray for us
Blessed Nicholas Garlick	Pray for us
Blessed William Richardson	Pray for us
O Mary, Mother of Perpetual Help	Pray for us